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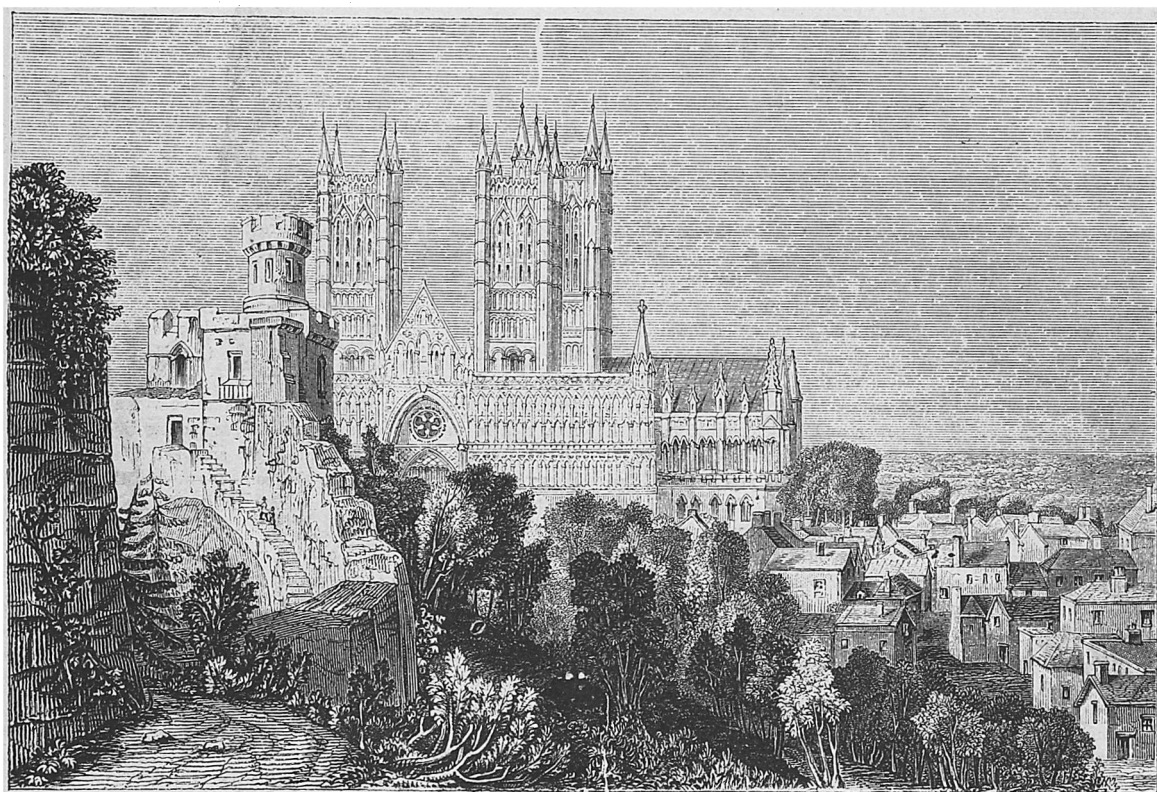
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## LINCOLN.

THE magnificent cathedral of Lincoln is, next to that of York, the most stupendous, as well as the most beautiful, monument of Gothic architecture in England, and stands on a hill, overlooking the town, and commanding a very extensive view, comprising the scenery of five or six counties. Its length from east to west is 530 feet, and its breadth 227 feet. The doorway and two of the three towers date from the eleventh century, and justify the opinion of those antiquaries who attribute the foundation of the one to William the Conqueror, and of the others to his son William Rufus. It was afterwards rebuilt by Henry II., and dedicated to the Virgin. The most remarkable portions of this immense edifice are the choir and the chapel of the Virgin. The great bell, celebrated by the name of Tom of Lincoln, was long famous for its deep and resonant tone, which was heard at a great distance. In 1827 it by some means got cracked, and in 1834 it was broken in pieces. It was refounded, and replaced in the central tower the year following. Its diameter in the widest part is eighteen feet, and it contains five

earth and the trunks of trees placed with the branches outward. To defend themselves from the incursions of these barbarians, the Roman masters of the country surrounded the city with walls, and formed the Foss-dyke, a canal about ten miles in length, connecting the waters of the Witham with those of the Trent, and thus forming a complete internal navigation between the Wash and the Humber. Henry I. cleared out the Foss-dyke, and improved the navigation; and it is still used as a canal from Lincoln to the Trent. The city derives its name from occupying the site of the Roman military station called Lindum, and stands on the line of the great Roman road called Ermine-street. The fortifications were increased and improved by the Saxons, and at the time of the Domesday survey Lincoln was one of the richest and most populous cities in the kingdom.

The ruins of the bishop's palace, which was demolished during the civil war, stand a little to the south of the cathedral, and comprise a fine hall, a gateway, and part of the kitchen. In the neigh-



THE CITY OF LINCOLN.

tons and a half of metal. The weight of the old bell was only four tons and a half. The difficulty of swinging the enormous clapper is the reason why the bell is used only on rare occasions. Before the Reformation, the cathedral of Lincoln was one of the richest in the kingdom, but Henry VIII. appropriated the greatest part of its treasures, and during the civil war between Charles I. and the Parliament, the sumptuous tombs were mutilated, and this splendid religious edifice was used as a barrack by the soldiers of Cromwell.

The cathedral is not the only remarkable monument in Lincoln; the ruins of the castle erected by William the Conqueror, and the Newport gate, attract the attention of visitors, and prove the antiquity of the city. The latter is an imposing structure of Roman architecture, ten feet thick, and sixteen feet wide in the archway. When the country was under Roman domination, the district in which Lincoln is situated was inhabited by the Coritani, a warlike tribe of savages, who painted their bodies with blue pigment extracted from the woad plant, and wore rings of iron on their arms. Their towns were mere collections of huts, defended by ramparts of

bourhood of these ruins is a modern building, which the bishop occupies during his stay in the city. Besides a great number of monasteries and nunneries, and other religious edifices, Lincoln formerly contained upwards of fifty churches, of which only eleven remain, exclusive of the cathedral, and most of these are small and much dilapidated. One of these, St. Peter at Gowths, is an old conventual church, and has a lofty square tower of Norman architecture. Some remains of the old castle are still standing on the hill, westward from the cathedral, and the site of the other portions is occupied by the county gaol and court-house, erected from the designs of Smirke. The gaol is constructed on the plan recommended by the philanthropist Howard, but is said to be too small for the purpose of classification. The Guildhall (an ancient Gothic edifice), the market-house, the assembly-room, and the theatre, are the only other public buildings. But if there is nothing remarkable in the modern edifices of Lincoln, the deficiency is amply made up by the number of ancient remains, of which few towns in England contain so many.